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Letter dated 2 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as Chairman of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 1441 (2002) and the ongoing Council consultations regarding the situation with Iraq. In particular, I would like to refer to operative paragraph 5 of that resolution, by which it was determined that the weapons inspectors should report to the Security Council by 27 January 2003.

I therefore request the Security Council to consider applying rule 48 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council and to decide that the Council shall meet in public to receive the reports from Dr. Hans Blix, Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, and Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

By allowing Dr. Blix and Dr. ElBaradei to present their views in an open meeting, the Security Council will afford the rest of the United Nations membership the benefit of receiving a first-hand account of this important report. The international community accords critical importance to the Security Council's deliberations on the ongoing work of the weapons inspectors in Iraq, as it has great significance for the maintenance of international peace and security.

I should be grateful if this present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dumisani S. **Kumalo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of South Africa to the United Nations

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